GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2249
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
DECLINE IN POVERTY IN SOUTH ASIAN REGION
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent report by International Labour Office (ILO) has revealed a general decline in poverty and increase in productivity in the South Asian Region during the last decade;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the change in the said indices with reference to India; and

(c) the official assessment made with regard to the above during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Reports of ILO has revealed that there has been a decline in poverty and increase in productivity in South Asian Region during the last decade.

(b) & (c): As per the ILO Report (Key Indicators of the Labour Market) share of working poor (1 US $ a day) in the total employment for South Asia has come down from 56.6 percent in 1996 to 33.5 percent in the year 2006. As per the Report, the annual percentage change in Labour productivity in South Asia was 2.3 percent in 1996, which further increased to 5.8 percent in the year 2006. In case of India, the annual growth rate of Labour Productivity (defined as value added per person employed) during 1980 to 2005 was 3.7 percent. Poverty ratio, in India, which was 36 percent in 1993-94, has come down to 27.5 percent in 2004-05 (Uniform Recall Period bases).